क्र० सं०	राज्य का नाम	दर्जा बढ़ाये गये डाकघरों की संख्या		
		1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
	नागालैंड	—	—	—
	मिजोरम	—	—	—
	त्रिपुरा	—	—	—
14.	उड़ीसा	4	1	—
15.	पंजाब	1	—	1
	चण्डीगढ़	—	—	—
16.	राजस्थान	1	—	1
17.	तमिलनाडु	—	2	8
	पाण्डिचेरी	—	—	—
18.	उत्तर प्रदेश	2	3	1
19.	पश्चिम बंगाल	—	—	—
	सिक्किम	—	—	—
	अंडमान एवं निकोबार	—	—	—
	कुल:	34	22*	36*

*इसमें हिमाचल प्रदेश और उत्तर प्रदेश में एक-एक उप डाकघर का प्रधान डाकघर के रूप में दर्जा बढ़ाना शामिल है।

Telephone Facilities at Panchayat headquarters in Gujarat

299. SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of panchayat headquarters in Gujarat provided with telephone facilities at present;

(b) the number of panchayat headquarters which are yet to be provided with this facility in the State; and

(c) by when these panchayat headquarters are likely to be linked with this facility throughout the State?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA): (a) 11986 Panchayat Headquarters in Gujarat have been provided with public telephone facility upto 31st March, 1996.

(b) 1524 Panchayat Headquarters in the State are yet to be provided with public telephone facility.

(c) The remaining Panchayat Headquarters are likely to be provided with such facility by the year 1997.

Using out-dated weapons by army in Jammu & Kashmir

*300. SHRI JOYANTA ROY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Army is facing the militants in Jammu and Kashmir with out-dated weapons; and

(b) the reasons of maximum casualties of our defence personnel?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MULAYAN SINGH YADAV): (a) and (b) The Indian Army is equipped with weapons to carry out its conventional role. During the initial phase of militancy in J&K, the Army carried out its operations against militants with conventional weapons. However, some of these weapons were not ideally suited for anti-militant operations, since the militant groups operating in the Valley had started acquiring a wide spectrum of sophisticated weapons, like the AK series of rifles, and sniper rifles, which enabled them to generate high volume of rapid fire at close quarters. These weapons are reportedly being supplied by the ISI of Pakistan, with the objective of aiding and abetting terrorism in the State. With a view to effectively deal with the militants, steps have been taken to equip Army units operating in J&K with appropriate weapons. It has been decided to induct 5.56 mm series of weapons as a part of the modernisation plan of Indian Army. in addition, AK series of rifles and ammunitions, which are well suited to fight the militants have also been selectively inducted.

In anti-militant operations the modus operandi of the militants of merging with the local population and resorting to sneak raids against isolated movement, results in the militants taking advantage of the local conditions to inflict casualties on security forces. Under these extreme conditions of provocation, the Army does not use its heavy weapons as it would cause collateral damage to innocent life and property. This exchange of fire sometimes results in casualties to security forces. In addition the mercenaries are also being equipped with sophisticated remote control improvised explosive devices, which they use along roads and tracks where Army movement is anticipated, While the Army in most cases manages to spot and disarm such devices, there have been cases where these devices when surreptitiously activated have caused casualties.

Bomb Blast in Uttar Pradesh Roadways Bus

1645. SHRI TARA CHARAN MAJUMDAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an incident of bomb blast in a Roorkee-bound UP Roadways bus at Modinagar was reported in April, 1996;

(b) if so, the number of persons injured and killed;

(c) whether identity of all killed has been established so far;

(d) if so, details thereof and the amount paid to next kin of killed and injured by different agencies;

(e) whether some militant organisations of J&K has claimed responsibility for such bomb explosion;

(f) if so, any action taken thereon;

(g) the steps Government propose to ensure that these incidents are not repeated in future; and

(h) if so, details thereof and if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS: (SHRI MD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. According to information available, 16 persons were killed and 36 injured in this incident.

(c) and (d) Yes, sir, A list showing the name and address of those killed is annexed (see below). The State Govt. have announced to pay compensation @ Rs. 1 Lakh each to the next of kin of those who died and @ Rs. 10,000/- each to those injured in the explosion.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

(g) and (h) The State Governments are alerted from time to time regarding activites of terrorist elements, their movements and likely targets in various states with a view to enable them to take appropriate measures to prevent recurrence of such incidents.

Statement

S. No.	Name of the person killed	Address
1.	Smt. Guddi, W/o Shri Rama	550, Indra Colony Muzaffarnagar.
2.	Phool Singh, S/o Shri Bram Singh	R/o Nek, Police Station, Jani, Meerut District.
3.	Shri Kanhaiya Lal, S/o Shri Gopi Ram	R/O Handiya Lalkurti, Police Station Lalkurti, District Meerut.